

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

INFO USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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COGARD FOR POLAD

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SUBJECT: OCTOBER 11 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. VIETNAM

WP'S MCCOMB, PHINQ, NYT'S SHIPLER AND CHITRIB COVER
VIET JOURNALISTS' PROTEST DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GOVT
PRESS CENSORSHIP IN WHICH POLICE ATTACKED SEVERAL
DEMONSTRATORS AND THREE AMERICAN NEWSMEN. CBS
CORRESPONDENT HOWELL HOSPITALIZED WITH POSSIBLE SERIOUS
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INJURIES AFTER EVACUATION BY EMBASSY AMBULANCE. ALSO
ATTACKED WERE TIME MAGAZINE'S HILLENBRAND AND SPRAGEN
OF PACIFIC BASIN REPORT. US EMBASSY SPOKESMAN TOLD
SHIPLER THAT AMB. MARTIN WILL RAISE MATTER AT FOREIGN

MINISTRY AND ASK THAT IT BE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED;
GVN SPOKESMAN CALLED ATTACK "VERY DEPLORABLE," ADDING,
"WE ARE INVESTIGATING."

MCCOMBS OBSERVES THAT COMMON PEOPLE OF SAIGON, FOR
FIRST TIME IN YEARS, SHOWED REAL SPARK OF INTEREST
IN SUPPORTING PROTEST, ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED MARCHERS
AND SWELLED RANKS OF ORIGINAL 200 INTO MAJOR DEMONSTRATION.
SHIPLER, ALSO NOTING THAT PASSERS-BY WERE MORE
OPENLY SUPPORTIVE THAN IN THE PAST, SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH
POLICE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN UNDER STRICT INSTRUCTIONS
TO KEEP HANDS OFF DEMONSTRATORS, PLAINCLOTHESMEN WERE

CONSIDERABLY MORE VIOLENT THAN IN THE PAST. POLICE
VIOLENCE WAS DIRECTED NOT AGAINST MAIN BODY OF DEMONSTRATORS
BUT AGAINST SMALL GROUPS OF MORE VITRIOLIC THIEU OPPONENTS
WHO ATTACH THEMSELVES TO LARGER PROTESTS.

REUTER SAIGON QUOTES GVN SPOKESMAN AS ISSUING DENIAL
THAT PLAINCLOTHES POLICE ATTACKED DEMONSTRATORS OR
FOREIGN JOURNALISTS. ALSO CITES SOURCE AS DENYING
THAT CABINET RESHUFFLE WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION TO EASE
MOUNTING TENSION IN SVN, RECALLS THAT "RELIABLE
GOVERNMENT SOURCE" TOLD REUTER YESTERDAY THAT RESHUFFLE
DISCUSSED BUT NO DEFINITE DECISION MADE. MEANWHILE,
COMMUNIST SAPPERS BLEW UP BRIDGE ON HWY 1 JUST OUTSIDE
PHAN LY CHAM DISTRICT TOWN, 130 E OF SAIGON, ACCORDING SAIGON
COMMAND. UPI PARIS (WP) REPORTS PRG ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT
WILL NOT RENEW NEGOTIATIONS WITH SVN UNTIL THIEU AND GVN ARE
OVERTHROWN; ALSO DENOUNCED WHAT IT SAID WERE PRES.
FORD'S PLANS TO SEEK FUNDS FOR GVN AT OCT 17 WORLD BANK
MEETING.

NYT REPORTS MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY VISIT TO SAIGON
UNDER DOS SPONSORSHIP. VISIT DESCRIBED IN HIGHLY
FAVORABLE TERMS. SAYS "...FOR TWO FLEETING DAYS THE
UNITED STATES SHOWED A NEW FACE IN VIETNAM. IT WAS
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LIKE NOTHING SEEN IN ALL THE YEARS OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS,
AMERICAN PILOTS, AMERICAN DIPLOMATS, MECHANICS...NEWSMEN
...POLITICIANS PARADING THROUGH THIS SAD COUNTRY."

2. JAPAN

WH PRESS SECRETARY NESSEN SAYS US IS KEEPING ITS
AGREEMENT NOT TO INTRODUCE NUKES INTO JAPAN WITHOUT
CONSULTING GOJ. ADDS THAT HE KNOWS OF NO "SECRET
DEALS" WHICH JAPANESE CRITICS ALLEGE ARE PERMITTING
NUKE TRAFFIC (WP, GLOBE, CHITRIB).

CHITRIB'S YATES, IN TOKYO, REPORTS GOJ "FIRMLY URGED"

US THURSDAY TO PROVIDE "CONVINCING EXPLANATION" OF LAROCQUE ALLEGATIONS BEFORE THIS WEEKEND. SAYS LDP TRYING TO WARD OFF EXTRAORDINARY DIET SESSION DEMANDED BY OPPOSITION TO EXAMINE ISSUE. YATES SAYS "LAROCQUE SHOCK" HAS SHAKEN US-JAPAN RELATIONS AND IS LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR HUGE ANTI-US DEMONSTRATIONS ON ANTI-WAR DAY (OCT. 21) AND DURING FORD VISIT. GOJ HAS TENDED TO VIEW LAROCQUE TESTIMONY CAUTIOUSLY, WAITING FOR US REFUTATION; SO FAR, THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED, AND SOME HIGH JAPANESE OFFICIALS ARE COMPLAINING THAT THIS RETICENCE IS PUSHING TANAKA GOVT. INTO CORNER.

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YATES REPORTS THAT IN EFFORT TO SHOW GOOD FAITH TO US, GOJ REFUSED TO GIVE IN TO PRESSURE FROM SEVERAL LOCAL GOVTS WHERE US SHIPS DOCK TO BAR THEIR ENTRY. AS RESULT, MORE THAN 1,000 JAPANESE RIOT POLICE MOBILIZED THURSDAY WHEN MIDWAY RETURNED TO YOKOSUKA. QUOTES KIMURA SAYING IN INTERVIEW THAT IF US WOULD "TAKE SOME MEASURE TO REMOVE ALL THIS ANXIETY, IT MIGHT COOL THINGS DOWN." YATES SUGGESTS THAT LAST THING TANAKA GOVT WANTS IS INTENSE OPPOSITION QUESTIONING ON NUKE ISSUE -- ESPECIALLY AMID NEW CHARGES THAT GOJ HAS KNOWN ALL ALONG ABOUT US NUKE-BEARING SHIPS ENTERING JAPAN. NOTES KIMURA SAID TOKYO MIGHT NOT PERMIT ENTRY OF NUKES EVEN IF ITS EXISTENCE WERE THREATENED AND COUNTRY WAS UNDER DIRECT ENEMY ATTACK -- CONSULTATION WITH US AND NATIONAL CONSENSUS WOULD HAVE TO PRECEDE ANY GOJ DECISION.

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LAT'S JAMESON, IN TOKYO, CITES SEPARATE BUT SIMILAR MESSAGES SENT BY KANAGAWA GOVERNOR AND YOKOSUKA MAYOR TO KIMURA AND AMB. HODGSON WARNING OF PUBLIC DISTURBANCES UNLESS MIDWAY KEPT OUT OF YOKOSUKA UNTIL NUKES CONTROVERSY IS CLEARED UP. OBSERVES YET ANOTHER POTENTIAL HEADACHE TO US-JAPAN RELATIONS ON EVE OF WHAT PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO BE TROUBLE-FREE FORD VISIT: NEWS THAT US HAS INSTITUTED SYSTEM OF PRIOR APPROVALS FOR GRAIN EXPORTS. WHILE NO IMMEDIATE FOOD PROBLEMS SEEN FOR JAPAN, OFFICIALS FEARED US ACTION MIGHT BE PRELUDE TO CUTS IN ALREADY CONTRACTED FUTURE PURCHASES (OCT. 9).

JOC'S RICHARDS REPORTS LOUISIANA-PACIFIC CORP SAYS IT ISN'T WORRIED ABOUT LOSING BUSINESS WITH JAPAN, DESPITE PRESENT SHAKINESS OF JAPANESE ECONOMY. JAPANESE ARE HONORING LUMBER CONTRACTS ORIGINALLY NEGOTIATED.

3. KOREA

AP (SEOUL) REPORTS MOST TURBULENT STUDENT-POLICE CLASH SINCE MOVEMENT RESURFACED AUG 23 TOOK PLACE THURSDAY

AS ABOUT 1,000 ROCK-THROWING KOREA U STUDENTS AND POLICE USING TEAR GAS CLASHED DURING DEMONSTRATION FOR RELEASE OF PRISONERS HELD FOR ANTI-GOVT ACTIVITIES. STUDENTS MARCHED AROUND CAMPUS CHANTING SLOGANS AND THROWING ROCKS AND DRIVING AWAY NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS, EXPLAINING THEY COULD NOT TELL WHO MIGHT BE GOVT AGENTS TAKING PICTURES TO BE USED IN EVIDENCE. THEY WRECKED CAMERA OF KOREAN WORKING FOR CBS NEWS. LATER THURSDAY, AT SEOUL NATIONAL U'S COMMERCE COLLEGE, 300 STUDENTS RALLIED ON CAMPUS DEMANDING NEW CONSTITUTION, RELEASE

OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, END TO ALLEGED CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE AND SPEECH/PRESS FREEDOM GUARANTEES (SUN, PHINQ, WP). WIRE SERVICES REPORT SECOND DAY OF DISTURBANCES ERUPTED WITH 1,500 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING.

GLOBE'S STORIN, IN SEOUL, CITING THURSDAY'S STUDENT PROTEST, CATHOLIC DEMONSTRATION WEDNESDAY AND KIM YOUNG UNCLASSIFIED

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SAM'S DENUNCIATION OF PARK ON MONDAY, SAYS ALL THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE BELIEVED BY OBSERVERS TO RELATE TO FORD DECISION TO VISIT SK. THIS ANALYSIS BASED ON ASSUMPTION PARK HOPES TO AVOID HEAVY-HANDED ACTIONS THAT COULD FORCE FORD TO CANCEL TRIP.

S-N (10/11) HAS 2-STORY FRONT-PAGE SPREAD ON REV. SUN MYUNG MOON'S SECOND D.C. COMING, OCT. 16. ONE NOTES HOW MOON FOLLOWERS HAVE PLASTERED CITY WITH ADS, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE GIVEN PERMISSION TO POST ONLY THREE SIGNS PER BLOCK. SECOND ITEM RECOUNTS OTHER PROBLEMS OF MOON AND MISSIONARIES: TROUBLES WITH INS, IDEOLOGICAL CRITICISM FROM US CATHOLICS AND PROTESTANTS, GROUP'S BACKING OF NIXON, AND SECT'S SALES ACTIVITIES, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

4. CHINA

TESTIFYING BEFORE SFRC CONSIDERING HIS NATO NOMINATION, AMB BRUCE SAID WEDNESDAY THAT PRC WILL BECOME IMPORTANT OIL PRODUCER IN CLASS WITH INDONESIA BEFORE LONG AND ABLE TO MAKE BILLION DOLLARS YEARLY FROM RESOURCES IN CONTINENTAL SHELF AND FROM EXPLORATIONS IN YELLOW SEA. BRUCE ADDED THAT PEKING IS VERY KEEN TO OBTAIN MFN STATUS AND WILL BE VERY UPSET IF IT IS GRANTED ONLY TO SOVIET. BUT PRC IS NOT INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING TOURISM, DESPITE PROSPECT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE BENEFITS. CONCLUDED THAT CURRENT SYSTEM IS ONLY EFFECTIVE METHOD TO GOVERN PRC'S 800 MILLION PEOPLE AND THAT PASSING OF MAO OR CHOU WILL NOT BRING ABOUT ANY DRAMATIC CHANGE (UPI, WP; REUTER 10/10).

JOC (HK) REPORTS NEXT CANTON FAIR OPENING TUESDAY IS THOUGHT TO BE IN DIFFICULTIES. NOTES LAST ONE WAS VIEWED BY MANY CHINA TRADE ANALYSTS AS SIMPLE FLOP, ITS BUSINESS HAVING DECLINED 20-30 PERCENT AND ATTENDANCE DROPPED 10 PERCENT; NO MORE THAN HANDFUL OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS WERE INVITED AND NO AMERICANS WERE AMONG THEM. OBSERVERS POINT OUT THAT TRADE AT FAIR IS DECLINING IN RELATIVE IMPORTANCE, AND LATEST SESSION UNLIKELY TO BE

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WORTH MUCH MORE THAN 1 BILLION. LAST FAIR SHOWED NOT MERELY RELATIVE DECLINE IN TERMS OF CHINA'S TOTAL TRADE, BUT ABSOLUTE DECLINE, DESPITE RISE IN WORLD AND CHINESE PRICES.

THERE IS AMPLE REASON FOR BELIEVING MANY CHINESE PRICES ARE ON WAY DOWN. YET DESPITE THIS, THERE WERE QUESTIONS WHETHER MUCH WOULD BE SOLD. IMPORTANT JAPANESE MARKET SAID TO BE OVERSTOCKED WITH RAW SILK AND GARMENTS AND WELL-SUPPLIED WITH SHRIMP, ONE OF CHINA'S MOST PROFITABLE EXPORTS. JUST ABOUT ONLY THING NEW WILL BE THE WAY TRADERS CAN GET TO KWANGCHOW. WITH REGULAR TOKYO- PEKING FLIGHTS NOW, MANY EXPECTED TO ABANDON OLD HK-KWANGCHOW TRAIN IN FAVOR OF NIGHT IN SHANGHAI AND CAAC FLIGHTS NEXT MORNING.

UPI (HK) SAYS PRC JUDICIAL SYSTEM REMAINS MYSTERY TODAY FOR OUTSIDERS, A MIXTURE OF MASS PUBLIC CRITICISM, KANGAROO COURTS, JUDICIAL ADVICE AND POLITICAL REVIEW. FEW TRIALS TAKE PLACE IN COURTHOUSE WITH JUDICIARY OFFICIALS PRESIDING; MOST ARE HELD PUBLICLY IN FACTORIES OR COMMUNES OR NEIGHBORHOOD LOCALITIES. THERE ARE NO DEFENSE LAWYERS AND APPROPRIATE CCP COMMITTEE IS FINAL ARBITER OF SENTENCES AND APPEALS. FORMER MEMBER OF PRC SUPREME COURT RECENTLY TOLD BRITAIN'S LORD SHAWCROSS THAT JUDICIARY ROLE EXTREMELY LIMITED IN TODAY'S HIGHLY CHARGED POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN CHINA; ITS MAIN ROLE NOW IS TO SIT ON MASS TRIALS IN ADVISORY CAPACITY, WITH ONLY SERIOUS OR CAPITAL OFFENSES BEING TRIED IN COURT AND GOING THROUGH ANYTHING RESEMBLING JUDICIAL PROCESS -- BUT EVEN THEN CCP IS FINAL JUDGE (BALTO N-A OCT 10).

CHOU EN-LAI AND PRC RED CROSS SENT MESSAGES TO PERU EXPRESSING SOLICITUDE TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS, ACCORDING NCNA (UPI, WP).

IN REPORT ON USE OF HERBAL MEDICINE FOR ANAESTHESIA IN CHINA, NCNA REVEALED USE OF EXTRACT FROM FLOWER OF POISONOUS DATURA PLANT. AGENCY SAID NEW DRUG ALREADY HAS BEEN USED ON MORE THAN 40,000 PATIENTS

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IN LAST FOUR YEARS (WP).

5. THAILAND

AP REPORTS DOS SAID WEDNESDAY THAT COMPLETION OF

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DRAFT CONSTITUTION SIGNED BY THAI KING MARKS "MAJOR AND WELCOME MOVE TOWARDS DEMOCRATIC GOVT." REPORTED DEPT ISSUED SPECIAL STATEMENT TAKING NOTE OF ACTION BY THAI ASSEMBLY UPON COMPLETING THIRD AND FINAL READING OF DRAFT CONSTITUTION, AND IT NOTED THAT ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FEB. 1 (LAT OCT 10).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

6. INDONESIA

CSM MOSCOW REPORTS INDONESIA AND USSR MAKING SERIOUS EFFORT TO IMPROVE TIES WHICH STRAINED SINCE 1965. NOTES MALIK TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO VISIT MOSCOW IN DEC TO TRY REESTABLISH WIDER ECON TIES. CITES SOVIET EXPERTS ASCRIBING INDO MOTIVATION FOR IMPROVING TIES TO FEAR OF CHINA BUT SAYS ON SOVIET SIDE, PRIMARY MOTIVE IS TO PREVENT INDOS FROM FALLING TOO MUCH UNDER CHINESE SWAY.

BOTH SIDES HAVE MADE GESTURES IN RECENT MONTHS. USSR WAS FIRST COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE INDO'S 12-MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS CLAIM. AND LATELY, INDO HAS BEEN MODIFYING ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM, ALTHOUGH MALIK ALSO SAID SOVIET PROPOSAL WAS TOO VAGUE.

CITES ARTICLE IN LATEST ISSUE OF FAR EASTERN QUARTERLY AS INDICATING RUSSIAN CONCERN OVER CHINESE OVERTURES TO INDO. ARTICLE DEALS WITH INDO-PRC RELATIONS IN GREAT DETAIL AND ASSERTS THAT THOUGH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THEM NOT RE-ESTABLISHED, CHINA IS STEPPING UP TRADE VIA SINGAPORE AND HK, AND CHARGING LOWER PRICES THAN JAPANESE; ALSO ALLEGES THAT CHINA STILL CONTINUES TO PROMOTE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AGAINST UNCLASSIFIED

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INDO ON SARAWAK BORDER AS WELL AS THROUGH OVERSEAS CHINESE MINORITY. ARTICLE HINTS THAT DESPITE PEKING'S REFUSAL SO FAR TO MEET INDO CONDITIONS FOR RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS, I.E., GUARANTEES AGAINST SUBVERSION AND INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, NEW ALLIANCE

BETWEEN PEKING AND JAKARTA CANNOT BE RULED OUT. INGERSOLL

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